

ON *POMATIAS HARMERI*, n.sp., FROM THE PLIOCENE (RED CRAG) OF LITTLE OAKLEY, ESSEX.

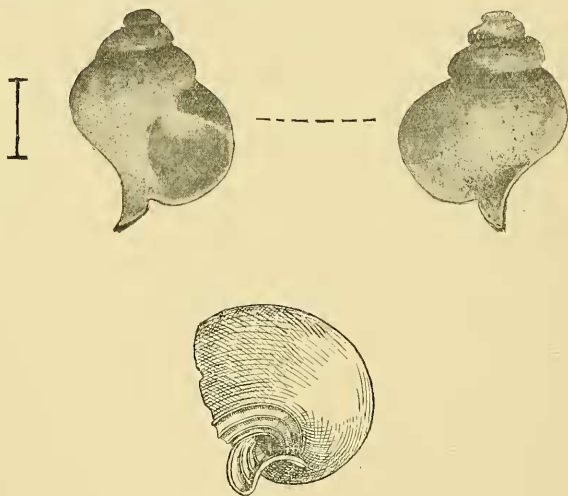
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*POMATIAS HARMERI*, n.sp.

Shell conical, somewhat solid, with numerous close-set spiral ridges, periphery rounded; whorls  $4\frac{1}{2}$ , rapidly enlarging, very tumid; spire produced, apex obtuse and smooth; suture very deep; mouth circular, slightly angulated above; umbilicus narrow; operculum unknown. Height 10, breadth 8 mm.

This interesting shell was found by Mr. F. W. Harmer, F.G.S., in the Red Crag of Little Oakley, Essex, which he considers the upper part of the Waltonian. He has kindly placed it in my hands for description, and I have great pleasure in associating it with his name as a slight recognition of his lifelong work in the Pliocene and Pleistocene beds of East Anglia.



At first sight it bears a considerable resemblance to *Pomatias elegans*, but on carefully comparing the sculpture differences are at once seen. The sculpture of *Pomatias elegans* is reticulate, the spiral ridges being connected by numerous striae. This reticulate sculpture is to be found in nearly all the European species of *Pomatias*. In *P. Harmeri* the spiral ridges are rather coarser than in *elegans*, and the striae are absent. It must be pointed out that the example of

*P. Harmeri* is somewhat worn, and that in this condition the reticulation, if it existed, should be much more apparent. The umbilical region, however, has suffered no detrition, and the absence of reticulation is noteworthy. Since it has lost at least half a whorl, it is rather difficult to compare the relative proportions, but it would appear to be distinctly broader in proportion than *P. elegans*.

Eleven species of *Pomatias* (*Cyclostoma*) are cited by Westerlund from the Palæarctic region, and after a careful comparison with all these forms I have failed to identify it, while there is no known extinct form which compares with it. It greatly extends the age of the genus in England, which hitherto has not been found in any deposit older than late Pleistocene, Barrington (Cambridge), Ightham (Kent), and the Happaway Cavern (Devonshire) being the records for that period, though it is known from many Holocene beds. It may be objected that it is unwise to name a rolled and worn shell of which only one example is known, yet it appears to me better to give it a new name rather than list it as *Pomatias elegans*, var. ?, from which species it distinctly differs.

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